

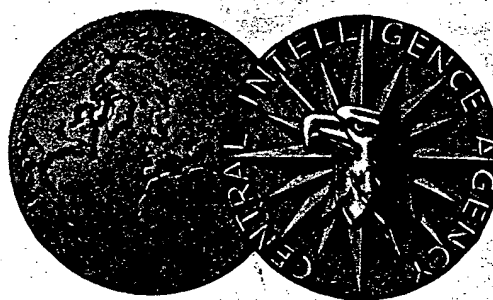
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WEEKLY SUMMARY



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EASTERN EUROPE

SOVIET UNION

Politburo Maneuvers Continuing political maneuvers on the highest level of the Soviet Government are revealed by recent indications that Nicolai Voznesensky, recently deposed chairman of the State Planning Commission, has apparently also been ousted from his Politburo membership. Voznesensky's failure to be appointed, as were the other Politburo members, an honorary delegate to several recent conferences, points to his probable dismissal from the top government body, the only such removal in the last decade. Voznesensky's relationship to the late Andrei Zhdanov strongly suggests that these latest developments are a reflection of the rise of Malenkov following Zhdanov's death.

YUGOSLAVIA

Guerrilla Moves Recent Yugoslav denunciations of subversive efforts by Cominform agents along the Yugoslav-Bulgarian border may indicate that guerrilla forays against Tito have already begun. The Yugoslav Government claims to have prevented Cominform Yugoslavs in Bulgaria from establishing contact with units in Yugoslavia. At the same time, Tito's Government has suspended an agreement with Bulgaria which permitted militiamen of either nation to escort trains across the common frontier. Although Tito appears to be in control of the situation, the Cominform will probably increase its efforts to harass the Yugoslavs through subversive and guerrilla action.

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BULGARIA

Communist Deviation The arrest of Traicho Kostov, vice premier and second most important Communist leader in Bulgaria, along with several other leaders in the Government and Party, indicates that the Kremlin has not yet been able to obtain the complete loyalty of the Satellite Communists. These arrests underscore the seriousness of the Kremlin's problem and the strength of Tito-like nationalism; they occurred in a Satellite often used by the Kremlin as an example for the other Satellites. Moreover, Kostov has generally been regarded as absolutely loyal to Moscow. The official communique describing his expulsion charged that Kostov: (1) lacked sincerity in his dealings with Soviet representatives (he apparently resisted economic exploitation of Bulgaria by the USSR); (2) disregarded Party and Government directives; (3) promoted distrust and suspicion within the Bulgarian Communist Party; and (4) opposed the Bulgarian Politburo. Apparently Kostov's cardinal sin was his effort as chairman of the Committee for Economic and Financial Questions to oppose Soviet exploitation of the Bulgarian economy. Although it is not known to what extent Kostov and those arrested with him had succeeded in forming an anti-Cominform organization, the recent denunciation by Interior Minister Yugov of the tendency of nationalist deviationists to form sects suggests that at least a loose kind of grouping was developing.

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